

Message Text

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13
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAJ-01 CU-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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R 170548Z SEP 76
FM AMCONSUL LENINGRAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2623
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LENINGRAD 1499

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, UR
SUBJ: UNOFFICIAL ARTISTS PROMISED FURTHER OPPORTUNITY EXHIBIT

REF: A) LENINGRAD 1292 B) MOSCOW 12557

1. DURING INFORMAL SESSION BETWEEN NEW YORK ARTIST LARRY RIVERS AND SMALL GROUP UNOFFICIAL ARTISTS SEPT 15, CONGEN OFFICERS WERE TOLD THAT LENINGRAD CULTURAL AUTHORITIES HAD AUTHORIZED FURTHER SMALL EXHIBITION BY UNOFFICIAL ARTISTS IN OCTOBER. AT SAME TIME THEY ARE CONTINUING TO TAKE HARD LINE WITH DISSIDENT ARTISTS ON ANY FURTHER LARGE SCALE EXHIBITIONS.
2. FORTHCOMING EXHIBITION WILL BE LIMITED TO SEVEN OR EIGHT ARTISTS AND UNLIKE EARLIER SHOW, WHICH HAD CONSIDERABLE VARIETY OF DIFFERENT STYLES, WILL HAVE UNIFIED ABSTRACT THEME. EXHIBITION AGAIN WILL BE HELD AT OUT-OF-WAY HOUSE OF CULTURE IMENI ORDZHONIKIDZE ON VASILEVSKIY ISLAND.
3. WHILE TACTICAL NATURE OF AUTHORIZATION TO HOLD ANOTHER EXHIBITION SEEMS FULLY CLEAR TO DISSIDENT ARTISTS, NUMBER OF RECOGNITION-STARVED UNOFFICIALS CLEARLY WELCOME OPPORTUNITY FOR ANY EXHIBITION OF THEIR WORKS. VIRTUAL LACK OF ANY MARKET OR EXPOSURE OUTSIDE OF SMALL DIPLOMATIC COMMUNITY HERE AND ABSENCE OF PRESS CORPS WHICH CAN FOCUS ATTENTION ON THEIR WORKS HAS ADDED TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SENSE OF ISOLATION OF LENINGRAD'S DISSIDENT ARTISTS AND

HEIGHTENED THEIR RECEPTIVITY TO OVERTURES OF CULTURAL AUTHORITIES.
AS A RESULT, CULTURAL AUTHORITIES HERE SEEM TO FEEL THEY ARE IN
STRONG POSITION AND NO EFFORT HAS BEEN MADE TO TAKE ADDITIONAL
STEPS SUCH AS BUYING UP WORKS OF SOME UNOFFICIAL ARTISTS WHICH
REPORTEDLY HAS BEEN CASE IN MOSCOW (REFTEL B).
NEUBERT

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Message Attributes

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